

TEAM OF RIVALS

Lincoln's Cabinet at the Crossroads of War

A Civil War Sesquicentennial Exhibition

207-10
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tickets for October 14 Doris Kearns Goodwin lecture go on sale August 27

Presentation at Sangamon Auditorium coincides with the opening of “Team of Rivals” exhibit that day at Lincoln Presidential Museum

SPRINGFIELD – Tickets for an October 14 lecture by Pulitzer Prize winning author and renowned presidential historian Doris Kearns Goodwin, being presented in conjunction with the opening of the new “Team of Rivals” exhibit that day at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum, go on sale to the general public August 27 at the Sangamon Auditorium Ticket Office at the University of Illinois at Springfield.

Goodwin’s lecture, “The Art and Craft of Storytelling: From JFK, LBJ and FDR to Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt,” will discuss the process of trying to come up with a fresh story when dealing with well chronicled figures, as well as Lincoln's great story telling ability.

Tickets for this event are \$15 and go on sale to the general public Friday, August 27 at 10 a.m. To order tickets visit www.SangamonAuditorium.org or call the Sangamon Auditorium Ticket Office at (217) 206-6160 or toll free at (800) 207-6960. Tickets can also be purchased in-person at the Ticket Office, which is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The doors open at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 14 with the lecture beginning at 7 p.m. A book signing will follow the lecture.

Goodwin will officially open the Presidential Museum’s new “Team of Rivals” exhibit at 9 a.m. October 14. She will sign books in the Museum’s Gift Shop from 10 a.m. to noon, and copies of her books may be purchased there.

Titled “Team of Rivals” after the book by Goodwin, the exhibit will feature original artifacts from Lincoln and his Cabinet displayed together for the first time and will use innovative video components and creative productions to immerse visitors in the tumultuous days leading up to the Civil War. Goodwin will act as the personal tour guide throughout the exhibit with recorded videos that narrate each section of the exhibit.

The exhibit will demonstrate how Lincoln chose his initial Presidential cabinet, composing it of men with differing viewpoints, some of whom were his opponents for the 1860

Republican Presidential nomination. They include William H. Seward of New York, Secretary of State; Salmon P. Chase of Ohio, Secretary of the Treasury; Simon Cameron of Pennsylvania, Secretary of War; Gideon Welles of Connecticut, Secretary of the Navy; Caleb B. Smith of Indiana, Secretary of the Interior; Edward Bates of Missouri, Attorney General; and Montgomery Blair of Maryland, Postmaster General. Seward, Chase, Cameron and Bates all vied with Lincoln for the Republican nomination.

Visitors entering “Team of Rivals” will first learn how and why Lincoln chose his first Cabinet. They will move into a section covering his First Inaugural Address, including original Lincoln artifacts pertaining to the speech, then see a digital map that notes the Federal installations taken over by the Southern states before and during Secession. A corridor will follow the military and political path toward war as some of Lincoln’s own Cabinet members work behind his back to undermine his authority. Fort Sumter will be examined before, during and after the battle that started the Civil War, and this area will include original artifacts from the fort and the commanders on both sides of the battle. The final section will feature in-depth information about Lincoln’s Cabinet members along with displays of original personal artifacts from them.

“Team of Rivals” will open just prior to the 150th anniversary of Lincoln’s election as President, his Farewell Address to Springfield as President-elect in February 2011, and the start of the Civil War in April 2011.

For more information about “Team of Rivals” or other programs and exhibits at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, visit www.presidentlincoln.org.

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